



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

Administration / 500 West Temple Street / Los Angeles, California 90012 / (213) 974-1431

MINUTES OF THE 654th MEETING OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

The 654th meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission was held on August 19, 2004, in Room 864 at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California. A list of those in attendance follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bertrum M. CeDillos, Chair
Clifton Albright, Vice Chair
Nelson L. Atkins
Walter P. Coombs
William J. Galloway
Ann Jackson
Neal S. Millard
Carol Rose
Robbi J. Work

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Lee Kanon Alpert
Thomas J. Jeffers
Janice Kamenir-Reznik
Sylvia Scott Hayes

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Heather Aubry, Los Angeles City Attorney
Sgt. Bruce Haar, LASD
Karen Green, Public Defender's Office
Danette Myers, L. A. County Bar Association

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Darby Chen, Superior Court
Honorable John H. Sandoz, Superior Court
Peggy Shuttleworth, CCJCC
Zoe Venhuizen, Superior Court

MEMBERS

Carol L. Rose
Chair

Walter P. Coombs
Vice Chair

Clifton W. Albright
Lee Kanon Alpert
Nelson L. Atkins
Bertrum M. CeDillos
William J. Galloway
Ann Jackson
Thomas J. Jeffers
Janice Kamenir-Reznik
Neal S. Millard
Sylvia Scott-Hayes
Robbi J. Work

CITY REPRESENTATIVES

Michael Karsch, Los Angeles City

GUESTS

None

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Jim Corbett
Dedie Ward
Nyla Jefferson

CALL TO ORDER

Chair CeDillos called the 654th regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission (JPC) to order at 12:29 p.m. Commissioner Ann Jackson was asked to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by introductions of Commissioners, Ex-Officio Members, Staff, and guests

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2004

On motion of Commissioner Coombs, seconded by Commissioner Jackson and unanimously carried, the minutes of the July 15, 2004 meeting were approved noting the correct spelling of the name Gorley is Gourley.

CHAIR'S REPORT

UPDATE ON MEETING WITH PRESIDING JUDGE, ROBERT A DUKES, ASSISTANT PRESIDING JUDGE, WILLIAM A. MacLAUGHLIN, AND EXECUTIVE OFFICER/CLERK, JOHN A. CLARKE

Chair CeDillos reported that he met with Superior Court officials and discussed the relationship between the Court and the JPC. Chair CeDillos advised that the meeting was very productive and Court officials agreed that they would like to foster the current relationship between the Court and the Commission by continuing to work together and collaborate on common issues and programs that benefit and affect the citizens of Los Angeles County.

LOS ANGELES CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Heather Aubry, Deputy Attorney, City Attorney's Office gave an overview on the structure and functions of the various divisions of the City Attorney's Office. Ms. Aubry stated that she has been working in the Civil Liability Division for six years representing the City in litigation where the City has been named as a defendant.

Ms. Aubry reported that the City Attorney's Office is the largest municipal law firm in the Country employing 500 attorneys, and the City's Chief Prosecutor is responsible for prosecuting all misdemeanor criminal offenses and infractions occurring in the City. Over 135,000 misdemeanor criminal cases are reviewed annually with a 90% overall conviction rate.

There are two main branches of the City Attorney's Office: Criminal and Civil. The Criminal division has a number of crime prevention initiatives in operation that focus on proactively addressing criminal enforcement and preserving the quality of life in Los Angeles' neighborhoods. Neighborhood residents and law enforcement agencies are encouraged to work closely together to resolve issues of concern in local communities. This division also has several successful programs operating in city neighborhoods which include the Neighborhood Prosecutors Program which makes prosecutors more accessible and responsive to citizens in resolving neighborhood problems, the Citywide Nuisance Abatement Program (CNAP) which assists the general public with issues such as blight, drugs, and cleaner neighborhoods, and the Dispute Resolution Division which handles disputes between neighbors without court intervention.

Other divisions of the City Attorney's Office include:

- Civil Liability Management Division which represents the City in all claims and lawsuits filed against the City, including police litigation, construction related contracts, Workers Compensation fraud and Risk Management.
- The Appellate Division which represents the City at all levels in State, Federal and the United States Supreme Court when the City is either the respondent in an appeal or files an appeal.
- The Municipal Counsel which advises city departments, elected officials, and commissions; drafts ordinances and acts as the general counsel on legal matters, and provides counsel for the Airports, the Harbor Division and the Department of Water and Power.
- The Real Estate and Economic Development division where attorneys provide advice on property acquisition, development deals and major construction contracts.
- Labor Relations Division which represents the City on the management side with respect to any lawsuits filed against the City by employees in areas such as discrimination.

A brief question and answer period following where the issues of Driving Under the Influence conviction rates and gang injunctions were discussed. Peggy Shuttleworth, Executive Director, CCjCC, stated that the City Attorney's Office has a dedicated Gang Unit and she will provide information about gang injunctions and gang crime statistics at the next meeting.

PREPARING ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Millard reported that he will prepare a draft of the Commission's accomplishments over the past few years and present the report to the full Commissioners for their review and input. Following review by the Commission, the report will be finalized and submitted to the Board of Supervisors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

JPC Donation Trust Fund Report/Child Waiting Room Update

Commissioner Jackson reported that as a result of recent donations from Commissioners, Ex-Officio members and the L. A. County Bar Foundation, the fund now has enough money to assist with the stalled Child Waiting Room project at the Airport Court. The next step will be to contact the Airport Court to determine how to proceed with the project. Zoe Venhuizen, Superior Court, added that since the initial figures to modify Airport Court are over a year old, Superior Court facilities is currently in the process of re-evaluating and verifying the initial cost estimates before proceeding with the project.

Commissioner Jackson stated that the Donation Trust Fund Committee would be meeting in the next few weeks to discuss funding to establish additional child waiting rooms. Chair CeDillos added that he will be in attendance at the upcoming meeting and will look into the feasibility of acquiring permanent funding resources through charitable organizations for the Trust Fund.

Child Custody Exchange Committee

Peggy Shuttleworth reported that she has spoken with Judge Aviva Bobb who expressed an interest in the implementation of this project and has asked that the Committee seek Prop 10 funding to support this project. Ms. Shuttleworth stated that she will look into the matter and report back next month.

JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION 2004-2005 MEETING SCHEDULES

Chair CeDillos stated that he has a list of interesting speakers lined up to give presentations at upcoming Commission meetings and will be preparing a list for distribution to the full Commission.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.